THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

The Freedom of the Preſs is one of the great Bulwarks of Liberty, and can never be reſtrained but by deſpotic Governments.

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HONOUR, I obey thee!

AT a criſis when America is invaded by one of the moſt powerful fleets and armies that ever the world beheld arrayed in order of battle; when the hand of tyranny is uplifted to fell the GLORIOUS PLANT OF LIBERTY, which our anceſtors have cheriſhed from the earlieſt ages, as the tree of life; when war, with all its horrours, is invading this once happy land; when every ſacred right is at ſtake; when every filial and affectionate ſentiment ſhould engage us to ſtep forth in ſupport of thoſe who have been the guardians of our tender years, or the ſweet companions of our halcyon days; muſt not that ſoul be frozen, even to apathy, that is not rouſed by ſuch important and irreſiſtible impulſes! Our COUNTRY, our LIVES, our FORTUNES, our LIBERTIES, our PARENTS, our CHILDREN, and our WIVES, are the SACRED PLEDGES for which we are now contending. We ſtand on the brink of a precipice, from which we cannot advance without the nobleſt exertions of VIRTUE, UNANIMITY, and FORTITUDE. A ſingle falſe ſtep may precipitate us from the enjoyment of the bleſſings of LIBERTY, PEACE, and INDEPENDENCE, to the abyſs of ſlavery and woe. But, on the contrary, whilſt we are animated by the GLORIOUS CAUSE we are engaged in, whilſt we with chearfulneſs embark in the defence of the moſt valuable of ſublunary bleſſings, whilſt we are united in our ſentiment, vigilant in our duty, and active in our operations, we need not dread the thunder of cannon, nor tremble at the names of heroes arrayed in all the ſplendour of a corrupt court, or crowned with the faded laurels which have been plucked by the hand of tyranny.

Such, my countrymen, is the preſent ſtate of America; ſuch the conſequence of ſlumbering in the arms of peace, whilſt your enemy is at your gates; and ſuch the glorious reward of thoſe who nobly ſtand forth and oppoſe the progreſs of a mercenary army, more venal than a court favourite, more ſavage than a band of Tartars, and more ſpiritleſs than the ſooty ſons of Afric, when oppoſed by men animated by liberty and the ſacred love of their country.

Should any one among you require the force of example to animate you on this glorious occaſion, let him turn his eyes to that bright luminary of war in whoſe character the conduct of Emilius, the coolneſs of a Fabius, the intrepidity of an Hannibal, and the indefatigable ardour and military ſkill of a Cæſar, are united. Let not the name of Brutus or Camillus be remembered whilſt that of WASHINGTON is to be found in the annals of America. Great in the cabinet as in war, he ſhines with unrivalled ſplendour in every department of life; and, whilſt his abilities as a Stateſman and a General excite our wonder, his diſintereſted patriotiſm and domeſtic virtues command univerſal veneration. When ſent out by Governor Dinwiddie to order the French to deſiſt from their encroachments on Virginia, view him, in the early period of life, traverſing in the ſervice of his country the dreadful wilds of America, through nations of ſavages, with no other attendant but an interpreter. Behold him at the head of a handful of his gallant countrymen, engaged for many hours with more than treble the number of French at the Meadows, where the fire firſt ceaſed on the ſide of the enemy, who previouſly propoſed a parly; and, though ſurrounded by numbers, yet, a ſtranger to the impulſes of fear, he capitulated only on the terms of retiring with the honours of war. Follow him to that tremendous ſcene which ſtruck an univerſal panic in the braveſt of the Britiſh troops, when, as aid de camp to the intrepid Braddock, amidſt the dreadful carnage of that day, he was engaged in giving out the orders of that unfortunate General with a coolneſs that marked the hero, and at length brought him off the field of battle after he had received his mortal wound. Again, behold him exchanging the din of arms for the calmer ſcenes of life, ſtill active in the ſervice of his country in the ſenate, until the impending ſtorm, which is now burſting on America, called him forth as the guardian and protector of his country. Behold him abandoning the delights of peace, the enjoyment of affluence, and the pleaſures of domeſtic felicity, and entering with ardour upon a military life again. Let imagination paint him at the head of a few raw undiſciplined troops, deſtitute of arms and ammunition, beſieging an army of veterans ſupported by a powerful navy. Conſider with what unparalelled fortitude he withſtood the difficulties that ſurrounded him on every ſide. Behold him embracing the earlieſt opportunity of driving the enemy from their advantageous poſt, and obliging them to abandon the long perſecuted town of Boſton. Again ſurvey the plains of Long Iſland, whither he flew like a guardian angel to protect and bring off his brave troops, ſurrounded on every ſide by an hoſt of foes, and with a conduct unparalelled in hiſtory ſecured their retreat acroſs a river of which the enemy's ſhips were in full poſſeſſion. Surely Heaven interpoſed in behalf of America on that day, by permitting ſuch numbers to eſcape with glory from ſuch a ſuperior force! Behold his ſtruggles on the heights of Harlem, and at the White Plains, counteracting the beſt concerted plans of the ableſt Generals of the age. In thought attend him (if thought does not lag behind) when, as it were, he bounded from the White Plains to the Jerſey ſhore, covering the retreat of his men from fort Lee, and throwing himſelf with them before the enemy, and with the ſcattered remains of his diſbanded army, now amounting only to three thouſand men, checking, at every ſtep, the progreſs of the Britiſh army, and often halting to offer battle to numbers vaſtly ſuperior to his own. Gracious Heaven! can any Virginian his countryman, or can any American who regards him as the ſaviour of their ſtates, reflect on his ſituation at that juncture without horrour?---- Would he not rather ſhare his fortunes for the reſt of the war than hazard the ſalvation of his country by a ſhort enliſtment, at the end of which his General might be left without an army to ſupport him? Yet, even in ſuch a ſituation his calmneſs and intrepidity never forſook him, but he appeared ſtill greater in proportion to the dangers that ſurrounded him. At length, when the enemy flattered themſelves with the pleaſing expectations of a ſpeedy accompliſhment of their darling wiſh, we behold him by *coup de main* diſſipating the fears of his country, and ſtriking a terror into troops who the day before conceived themſelves on the eve of a triumph. Whilſt each effeminate ſon of peace was revelling in luxury, his active mind was employed in preparing for ſcenes equally glorious to himſelf and terrible to his enemies. Succeſs attended this matcheſt enterpriſe, and Philadelphia, with the reſt of America, hailed him her deliverer and guardian genius.

Such, my countrymen, is the General who directs the military operations of America; ſuch the glorious leader of her armies; ſuch the HERO whoſe bright example ſhould fire every generous heart to enliſt in the ſervice of his country. Let it not be ſaid you are callous to the impreſſions of ſuch noble conſiderations, but, by following his glorious example, ſhew yourſelves worthy of poſſeſſing that ineſtimable jewel LIBERTY, and reflect that you have nothing to dread whilſt you are engaged in ſo glorious a cauſe, and bleſſed with a WASHINGTON for a leader.

A CHARACTER.

AS diſtinguiſhed excellence in any art or ſcience is entitled to a record in the annals of fame, I think the worthy hero of the following ſtory has as great a right to be canonized as any ſaint in the Romiſh calendar.

A certain prieſt was ſome time ſince invited to a chriſtening at the houſe of a farmer in the pariſh. Prieſts on ſuch occaſions generally find inclination correſpond with duty: He went accordingly, and, after performing the ceremony with much grace and gravity, ſpent the evening with the reſt of the company. At ſupper, with as much grace, but not gravity, with looſened band and napkin tuck'd, he charged ſo courageouſly, and diſplayed his abilities in eating and drinking in ſo eminent a manner, that it was verily believed his dioceſan could not have ſhewn greater proweſs at the attack of a turtle in Lent. But behold! all fleſh is graſs! The reverend prieſt having exhibited his temperance and moderation in the entire demolition of a turkey, a cold pigion pye, and a hot buttered apple pye, diluted with about half a dozen bottles of Oſborne and port, began to find his earthen veſſel in a tottering ſtate. Thus circumſtanced, he prudently ſat ſtill, now and then propping up the weaker ſide with a glaſs, by way of buttreſs, till certain qualms, ſwimmings, and vermicular motions in his ſtomach, indicated an internal tumult, and threatened a ſpeedy eruption of its contents. Fearing therefore, that he ſhould become *vile in the eyes of the people*, he took up his hat and ſtaggered into the yard. Overpowered and [illegible] by ſtrong liquor, he bowed himſelf towards the wall; but not being ſo [illegible] handed, this pillar of the church fell proſtrate on the [illegible]

him the place was littered with ſtraw, elſe his ſacred veſtments might have been defiled, *and the bones of his fleſh broken*. He now ſoon loſt both ſenſe and memory, for lo! a deep ſleep fell upon him. The people in the houſe called; but he heard them not, and it being very dark, they could not ſee him, they therefore concluded he was gone home. But towards morning our reverend divine awaked, and (tell it not in Gath) found himſelf the companion of ſwine! A ſow and pigs, attracted by his ſavoury breath, ſoon found him out. The ſow lay down and fell aſleep along ſide this hopeful ſtem of divinity, performing the friendly office of an Abiſhag by keeping him warm in the night.

When our man of the ſpirit awaked, he could not for a while recollect where he was. He ſtroaked his briſtly bed-fellow; but by certain indications ſoon diſcovered that it was not her with whom he uſually cohabited. By degrees he became ſenſible of his ſituation, and of the quality of his companion, and finding gratitude ſpring in his breaſt for the benefit received from the warmth of the ſow, he thus accoſted her: "You are a good kind creature (ſaid he) and I am at a loſs how to make you amends for the ſervice you have done me. If I give you money, you can neither make uſe of it nor eat it. I could preach you a ſermon, but it will do you no good, becauſe you cannot underſtand it. What then can I do for you?" Here he muſed ſome moments, then getting up as well as he was able, and ſeeing the pigs, "I think (ſaid he) as you have got a large family to maintain, I will e'en take a couple of your children, and bring them up for you." A prieſt, on theſe occaſions never forfeits his word. The ſow grunted applauſe. He inſtantly catched up two of the pigs, and wrapping them up in the robe of righteouſneſs, ſtaggered home with them, undiſcovered by the farmer.

BOSTON, *December* 26.

The truth of the following extraordinary affair may be relied on.

CAPTAIN Eda, with 70 men, who, about two months ſince left St. John's, in order to take Fort Cumberland, ſeven days after his departure, took a ſcouting party of 12 men from the fort, who ſome time ſince arrived at Newbury Port. Five days after taking the aforeſaid party, as they were lying in ambuſh near the fort, they diſcovered a frigate and a ſloop, both which went up as far as the fort; and the frigate leaving the ſloop behind, departed. Abour 48 hours after, in the night, Capt. Eda's men determined to take the ſloop; they accordingly went and boarded her; a ſerjeant on board, who was made acquainted with the affair by the watch, ordered them to fire; but upon being told by Capt. Eda's men if they did they ſhould all be put to the ſword, they thought proper to deſiſt; and accordingly reſigned themſelves and veſſel (the cargo of which was valued at Halifax at 5000l. ſterling) into the hands of the brave Americans. The next morning, the Captain of the aforeſaid ſloop, a Doctor, and Chaplain (not knowing what had happened) came on board, and, in a ſhort time after, 15 men in a yawl, in order to unload the veſſel, then 7 in a two maſt boat, all which are taken proper care of, and were, together with the ſloop, which is laden with beef, pork, flour, peaſe, candles, blankets, iron, ſteel, nails, &c. carried into Newbury Port the beginning of laſt week; and it is ſuppoſed that, by this time, Capt. Eda, with the remainder of his men, is in poſſeſſion of Fort Cumberland.

On Friday 37 of the aforeſaid priſoners were committed to gaol in this town, among whom are Capt. Barron of the 4th regiment, Dr. Cullen, and the *pious* parſon Eggleſton, who yeſterday were ſent off to reſide at Hardwick.

By a Gentleman of veracity, who left London the 24th of September, we learn, that the merchants were very much alarmed at ſo many veſſels being taken from them, and were petitioning for an accommodation with the coloniſts upon commercial principles only; that the Court of Britain had demanded a categorical anſwer from France where her fleet and troops are deſtined; but that an evaſive anſwer was returned from the Court, implying *they ſhould know in due ſeaſon.*

The Alfred man of war, of the American navy, with the ſloop Providence, ſailed from Rhode Iſland the 2d of November. On the 12th they took a brig, with a very valuable cargo, from Liverpool for Halifax; and on the 13th, off Louiſbourg, they took a fine tranſport, laden with clothing for Canada. The 16th, off Cape North, they took a ſloop, with a cargo of fiſh, &c. from Gaſpey, for Barbodos. In the night of the 18th, the Providence diſappeared. The Alfred kept the tranſport ſhip under convoy, having mounted her with guns and manned her well. On the 22d they were off Canſo, the Alfred's boats were ſent to burn a tranſport, laden with proviſions, as ſhe got aſhore within the harbour, and could not be got off; the boats alſo burnt the oil ſtores, with their contents, and all the materials for the whale fiſhery. The 23d, the Alfred took three tranſport ſhips from Spaniſh river for New York, under convoy of the Pearl frigate; it was then hazy, otherwiſe the officers would have been within ſight. On the 26th, the Alfred took a merchant ſhip of 16 guns, from Liverpool for Halifax; ſhe had now five ſhips under convoy, and being unable to man a greater number, proceeded for port. On the 8th of December, on St. George's banks, ſhe was chaſed by a large ſhip, and ordered the Quebec tranſport to make ſail and run ahead; ſome of the faſteſt ſailing ſhips accompanied her, and the Alfred fell in between them and the ſtranger; the wind ſhifted in the night. The Alfred carried a top light, and ſtood to the northward. The clothing ſhip and others that had been ahead, ſtood on to the ſouthward. The ſtrange ſhip was near the Alfred in the morning, and appeared a man of war with St. George's colours. The laſt taken ſhip, as ſhe ſailed faſt, was ſent aſtern to view the enemy, and make a ſignal agreed on, if ſhe was of ſuperior force, ſhe made the ſignal that the enemy was of ſuperior force. The wind increaſed to a violent gale in the evening, and by that means the Alfred and prize ſhip got clear of the enemy, and the Alfred arrived ſafe in Nantaſket road the 16th current, having on board 140 priſoners, among whom are the Attorney General of Canada, with Lady and family, and ſeveral officers and ſoldiers. She had only two days proviſion left, and left Rhode Iſland with no more than 140 officers and men. The Quebec tranſport is called the Melliah; ſhe was lately a bomb in the Engliſh ſervice, and was then called the Thunder.

PROVIDENCE, *December* 21.

BY ſome deſerters from the miniſterial fleet at Newport, we learn, that the troops lately arrived there conſiſt of about 6000, one half of them Heſſians; and that it was reported on board the fleet, that they were ſoon to proceed to Boſton, through this town.

We learn from Newport, that upon the arrival of a ſhip there on Thurſday laſt, ſuppoſed to be from New York, the tranſports in the harbour began to take on board hay and ſtraw.

The troops from the neighbouring States continue to arrive here daily; and laſt night came to town a company of volunteers from Salem.

Tueſday laſt arrived here Major General Lincoln, who is appointed to the chief command of the American troops in this department.

NORWICH *(Connecticut) Dec.* 2.

MR. Ebenezer Grover, jun. of this town, who returned from the army laſt evening, informs us, that at the evacuation of fort Lee, as he was coming from the fort, he was, after being fired at ſeveral times, taken by a ſmall party of the enemy, who took from him his horſe and pack, threatening his life every minute, and carried him before General Cornwallis, who examined him, and ordered him to be ſearched; and, after breaking open and burning ſeveral letters, took his pocket book, which contained ſeveral continental bills, at which they were much diverted and talked of burning them; but he begged of them not to do it, as they would paſs among us as well as ſilver; after detaining him two days, with nine other priſoners, the Brigade Major gave him a paſs, and informed him that he was at liberty to return home; the other nine were ordered to New York. The General and his officers requeſted Mr. Grover to give their compliments to the people of Connecticut, and they would pay us a viſit as ſoon as they had been to ſee the Congreſs. Mr. Grover did not get his horſe and pack again.

HARTFORD, *December* 23.

INTELLIGENCE of General Lee's unguarded ſituation was given to the enemy the evening before he was made priſoner, by an inhabitant of Baſkenridge, perſonally known to the General, and who had made great pretenſions of friendſhip for the American cauſe, though at heart the greateſt villain that ever exiſted. This Judas rode all the preceeding night to carry the intelligence, and ſerved as a pilot to conduct the enemy, and came perſonally with them to the houſe where the General was taken.

PHILADELPHIA, *January* 4.

LAST Tueſday night Col. George Weedon, of Virginia, arrived in this city, with the Heſſian officers taken at Trenton, in the action of the 26th; he this day delivered them to the Council of Safety, with ſix ſtandards. They are allowed their parole of honour, and declare themſelves perfectly ſatisfied with their fate. We hear the Colonel ſets off again, in a day or two, for the continental army in Jerſey.

Jan. 7. This day an expreſs arrived from General Waſhington's army, at Pluckemin, Morris county, Eaſt Jerſey, which he left laſt Sunday night. By him we learn, that our army is in high ſpirits, having had various engagements with the enemy, in which they have been victorious, and have taken ſeveral field pieces, a conſiderable quantity of baggage, and upwards of four hundred priſoners, among whom are many officers of rank and fortune. Farther particulars are hourly expected.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman in the army, to his friend in this city, dated Pluckemin, *January* 5, 1777.

"We have a number of officers prisoners. I am just called on to command the infantry at the funeral of Captain Leslie, a British officer, killed at Princeton. We bury him with military honours. On the field I saw lying another Captain of the name of Mostyn, said to be the next heir to an estate of twenty five thousand pounds per annum in England."

On the first instant Mr. Walter Cruise, who was taken at Charlestown neck the 29th of June, arrived in this city, being exchanged after a tedious imprisonment of seventeen months. The integrity of this brave and unfortunate man, who, though an European, treated with disdain the promises of persons sent to entice him into the British service, will, it is hoped, recommend him to the attention of those in power.

Jan. 9. This day a number of British prisoners, light-horse, and infantry, were brought into this city from the Jerties.

Since the publication of last paper, no particulars have transpired concerning the operations of General Washington's army in the Jerties,

BALTIMORE, *January* 14.

SEVERAL couriers have arrived since our last, with despatches to the Hon. Congress, from his Excellency General Washington, the contents of which have not yet transpired. All our accounts, however, agree, that his Excellency's head qaurters are now at Morris town, where his troops are in high spirits, in consequence of their late successes, and were determined to take example by their gallant leader, in patiently bearing the fatigues and hardships of a winter's campaign, rather than suffer their country to be exposed to the further ravages of a barbarous vindictive foe. That the enemy's head quarters were still at Brunswick, but that they were taking every necessary precaution to secure a safe retreat to New York. That there have been several recent skirmishes in various parts of the Jersey State, between our troops and the enemy, in which the former have always been successful; but the particulars are so variously related, that we must defer saying more on the subject, till we hear further, than that we have taken a number of prisoners, a considerable quantity of stores, and that the enemy are now catching nothing but *tartars* in Jersey.

We hear that a number of Hessian prisoners are on their way to this town.

A letter from Philadelphia mentions, that a considerable body of New England troops have landed on the east end of Long Island, and were on their march towards New York; in consequence of which General Howe hath been obliged to detach a considerable body of troops that way, the *present* inhabitants of New York having a great aversion to *American thunder*.

The Melliah transport, laden with clothing, &c for Canada, taken by the Alfred man of war, is safe arrived at Dartmouth, in Massachusetts Bay.

It is reported, and credited, that Fort Cumberland, in Nova Scotia, is in possession of Captain Eda, and company.

Since our last, two troops of light-horse, from Virginia, commanded by Captains Nelson and Jameson, arrived in town, on their way to join General Washington's army in Jersey.

In a company which arrived yesterday from George town, on their way to join the American army, there is a cadet of 82 years of age; a Gentleman of fortune in this State.

Jan. 16. Connt Donop, commander of the late Hessian cantonments upon the Delaware, in Jersey, published an invitation to the people in the country to bring in provisions, &c. for his army; promising to pay for them to the value, to those who would supply him voluntarily; and threatening to take by force from those who neglected to comply with his requisition. In consequence of this advertisement many brought in their supplies to the King's stores, but there is no instance known of their having received one farthing in recompence. Such is the truth, such the justice and humanity of these invaders of peace and property—and such the treatment all must expect to suffer, and will assuredly find, if we permit this uncivilized banditti to over-run and possess our country.

It since appears, by General Howe's orders to the above commander, which have been taken in Jersey, that "all salted and meal provisions, judged to exceed the quantity necessary for the subsistence of an ordinary family, should be considered as a magazine of the enemy, and seized for the King, and given to the troops as a saving for the public."

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman of great worth in the American army, to the printer of this paper, dated near Princeton, *Jan.* 7, 1777.

"On the 2d instant intelligence was received, by express, that the enemy's army was advancing from Princeton towards Trenton, where the main body of our forces was then stationed. Two brigades, under Brigadier Generals Stephen and Fermoy, had been detached several days before, from the main body, to Maidenhead, and were ordered to skirmish with the enemy during their march, and to retreat to Trenton as occasion should require. A body of men, under command of Colonel Hand, were also ordered to meet the enemy, by which means their march was so much retarded, as to give ample time for our forces to form, and prepare to give them a warm reception upon their arrival. Two field pieces, planted upon a hill, at a small distance above the town, were managed with great advantage, and did considerable execution for some time, after which they were ordered to retire to the station occupied by our forces on the south side of the bridge, over the little river which divides the town into two parts, and opens at right angles into the Delaware. In their way through the town, the enemy suffered much by an incessant fire of Musketry, from behind the houses and barns. Their army had now arrived at the northern side of the bridge, whilst our army were drawn up, in order of battle, on the southern side. Our cannon played very briskly from this eminence, and were returned as briskly by the enemy. In a few minutes after the cannonade began, a very heavy discharge of musketry ensued, and continued for ten or fifteen minutes; during the action, a party of men were detached from our right wing, to secure a part of the river, which it was imagined, from the motions of the enemy, they intended to ford; this detachment arrived at the pass very opportunely, and effected their purpose: After this, the enemy made a feeble and unsupported attempt to pass the bridge, but this likewise proved abortive. It was now near six o'clock in the evening, and night coming on, closed the engagement. Our fires were built in due season, and very numerous, and whilst the enemy were amused by these appearances, and preparing for a general attack the ensuing morning, our army marched, at about one in the morning, from Trenton, on the south side of the creek, to Princeton. When they arrived near the hill, about one mile from Princeton, they found a body of the enemy formed upon it, and ready to receive them; upon which a spirited attack was made upon them, both with field pieces and musketry, and, after an obstinate resistance, and losing a considerable number of their men upon the field, those of them who could not make their escape surrendered prisoners of war. We immediately marched on to the centre of the town, and there took another party of the enemy, near the college. After tarrying a very short time in the town, General Washington marched his army from thence, towards Rocky-Hill, and they are now near Morris town, in high spirits, and in expectation of a junction with the rest of our forces, sufficiently seasonable to make a general attack upon the enemy, and prevent, at least, a considerable part of them from reaching their asylum in New York.——It is difficult, precisely, to ascertain the loss we have sustained in the two engagements, but as near as I can judge, I think we have lost about forty men killed, and had near double the number wounded. In the list of the former are the brave Col. Hazlet, Capt. Shippen, and Capt. Neal, who fell in the engagement upon the hill near Princeton; among the latter, was Brigadier General Mercer, who received seven wounds, five in his body, and two in his head, and was much bruised by the breech of a musket. His life was, yesterday, almost despaired of, but this morning I find him much relieved, and some of the most dangerous complaints removed, so that I still have hopes of his recovery, and of his being again restored to the arms of his grateful country. He is now a prisoner upon parole. The loss sustained by the enemy was much greater than ours, as was easily discovered by viewing the dead upon the field, after the action. We have near an hundred of their wounded, prisoners in the town, which, together with those who surrendered, and were taken in small parties, endeavouring to make their escape, I think must amount nearly to the number of four hundred, chiefly British troops. Six brass pieces of cannon have fallen into our hands, a quantity of ammunition, and several waggons of baggage. A Capt. Leslie was found amongst the dead of the enemy, and was, this day, buried with the honours of war; a number of other officers were also found on the field, but they were not known, and were buried with the other dead.——According to information from the inhabitants of Princeton, the number which marched out of it to attack our army, amounted to 13,000 men, under command of General Cornwallis. This body, as soon as they discovered that they were out-generall'd by the march of General Washington, being much chagrined at their disappointment (as it seems they intended to have cut our army to pieces, crossed the Delaware, and have marched immediately, without any further delay, to Philadelphia) pushed, with the greatest precipitation, towards Princeton, where they arrived about an hour after General Washington had left it, and imagining he would endeavour to take Brunswick in the same manner, proceeded directly for that place. Our soldiers were much fatigued, the greatest part of them having been deprived of their rest the two preceeding nights, otherwise we might, perhaps, have possessed ourselves of Brunswick. The enemy appear to be preparing to decamp, and retire to New York, as they are much disgusted with their late treatment in New Jersey, and have a great inclination to rest themselves a little in some secure winter quarters."

Capt. Fleming, of the third Virginia regiment, was killed in a late engagement in Jersey, in which he proved himself a gallant officer.

Fifty Hessians were, a few days ago, taken prisoners in Jersey, by a detachment of the American army, and carried to Morris Town.

Since our last 50 Hessian officers and soldiers, who were lately made prisoners at Trenton, arrived here from Philadelphia.

In one of the late actions in Jersey, Mr. Anthony Morris, an officer among the Philadelphia associators, a most worthy citizen, lost his life, bravely struggling for the freedom and independence of his country.

Yesterday Major General Gates sat out from hence for the American army, in Jersey.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 24.

WE hear the two men of war which came within our capes on Monday last are still hovering about the mouth of York river and New Point Comfort, have taken two salt vessels, and a ship laden with tobacco, from Maryland. Some of the hungry dogs have been on shore at the point, but with what design we cannot tell: No doubt we shall soon hear of bloody battles with the horned tribe, sieges against hog-pens, and violent assaults upon hen-roosts, by those modern heroes of Britain, who, on the dreadful appearance of a rifleman, like amphibious animals, fly to the watery element for security.

The Andrew Doria, a continental cruiser, has taken the British sloop of war Ajax, of ten guns, after a smart engagement of two hours, in which the Captain of the latter lost his life.

Since our last publication the 7th regiment, and the remainder of the 3d, have marched in divisions from hence, to join the American army in the province of New Jersey.

By accounts from the northward, we have the melancholy news of the death of Capt. JOHN FLEMING, in the 1st Virginia regiment, who proved himself to be a gallant officer, and nobly fell the 3d instant, near Trenton, at the head of his company, in defence of American freedom. He was universally esteemed by those who were acquainted with him, and his loss is much regretted.

Lament, ye brothers; ----all ye brave should mourn,
And drop a tear of pity o'er his urn.

SIXTX DOLLARS REWARD.

DESERTED from my Company, in the 2d *Georgia* Battalion, the following Soldiers, who enlisted with me in *Williamsburg*, viz.—HUGH GREEN, MICAJAH DEFOOS, JAMES STEPHENS, JOHN WILSON, JOHN CAINE, and BENJAMIN DELK. Whoever delivers them to me at *Prince Edward* Courthouse shall receive the above Reward, or TEN DOLLARS for each.

(1) ROBERT WARD, Lieut.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 23, 1777.

DESERTED, RICHARD PARKER,

an *Irishman*, between 35 and 40 Years of Age, and about 5 Feet 6 or 7 Inches high. He is a slovenly Fellow, and much addicted to Liquor; had on, and took with him, an old Hat, a new brown Coat, purchased from the Country Store, a Pair of Leather Breeches, and other Clothes, which I do not remember. If he returns to me in *Williamsburg* by the 5th of next Month, it shall operate much in his Favour; if not, he may expect the utmost Rigour of the Martial-Law; and I will give four Pistoles to any Person who will secure him so that I get him again. As Desertions become but too common, it is to be hoped that every Friend and Wellwisher to the Cause will exert himself in bringing such Offenders to Justice, and thereby timely suppress an Evil, which, if not discouraged, must be attended with the worst of Consequences.

JOHN R. DAVIES, Lieutenant.

One Hundred and Sixty Dollars Reward.

DESERTED from the Company formerly commanded by Captain *Charles Tomkies*, of the 7th Regiment, the following Soldiers, viz. *James Green, Thomas Peak, George Wilson, James White, Zachariah Fryer, Lewis Belvin, Aaron Belvin, George Belvin, Thomas Rawsons, Augustine Rawsons, Thomas Blackwell, William Anderson, John Willis, Robert Greaves, Richard Anderson*, and *Matthew Hudley*. I will give the above Reward for apprehending the above Deserters, or ten Dollars for each, to be delivered to Lieutenant *James Baytop*, at *Williamsburg*. The Whole of whom I expect are in *Gloucester* County, as the Company were raised there, and are Natives of that Place.

(1) REUBEN LIPSCOMB.

The said Soldiers of the said Company who have been indulged with Furloughs, are desired to join Lieutenant *Baytop*, on or before the [illegible] of *February*, at *Williamsburg*, or they will be treated as Deserters.

YORK Town, *Virginia*, *January* 23, 1777.

RUN away, on *Friday* the 17th Instant, an indented Servant Man, who came by the Name of JOHN OBRIEN, an *Irishman*, about 21 Years of Age, and a Tailor by Trade, about 5 Feet 6 Inches high, pitted with the Smallpox, slim made, has a remarkable long Head, and down Look when speaking to him, has dark Hair, can write extremely well, had on a brown Frieze Coat, a Check Shirt, and a black or blue Waistcoat. He will not pass by his right Name, nor own his Country. Whoever will take him up, and bring him to me, shall have TEN POUNDS Reward, and if secured in any Gaol, and send me Information, so that I get him again, shall have FIVE POUNDS Reward, paid them by WILLIAM DAVIS.

WILLIAMSBURG, *January* 23, 1777.

THE Commissioners of the Navy are in Want of a Quantity of OAK and PINE PLANK for the Purpose of Ship-Building. Any Person or Persons inclinable to contract for a Quantity of that Article, are desired to attend the Navy Board, in *Williamsburg*, on *Wednesday* the 5th Day of *February* next.

(2) THOMAS WHITING, 1st Com.

TO be SOLD at the *Rocky Ridge*, on *Friday* the 7th of *February*, if fair, otherwise next fair Day, FIFTY SLAVES, consisting of Men, Women, Boys, and Girls. One Half the said Negroes will be sold for ready Money, and for the Remainder twelve Months Credit will be allowed, the Purchasers giving Bond (with approved Security) to carry Interest from the Date if not punctually paid to

4 PHILIP JOHNSON.
JAMES BRAY JOHNSON.

FOR SALE, a valuable Tract of LAND in *Westmoreland* County, containing about 500 Acres, well timbered, lying on *Yeocomico* River, has a good Dwelling-House thereon, with an exceeding fine Brick Cellar, and other convenient Houses; it abounds with Fish and Oysters, lies within 300 Yards of *Yeocomico* Warehouse, and convenient to Church and Mills. There are on the said Land more than 1000 Peach Trees beginning to bear. Any Person wanting to purchase may know the Terms by applying to the Subscriber, on the Premises. (4‖) JEREMIAH G. BAILEY.

FOR SALE, the Schooner *BETSEY*, five Years old, built at *Boston*, as she now lies ashore near *Pig Point*, the Mouth of *Nansemond* River, with her Sails, Rigging, Cables, Anchors, Masts, Yards, and all other Materials. She is 56 Feet Keel, 22 Feet Beam, and seven Feet and a Half in the Hold, carries 800 Barrels of Flour. Her Materials may be seen at Mr. *M'Koy's* in *Nansemond*, and any Person inclining to purchase may know the Conditions by applying to the Subscriber at *Fredericksburg*.

4‖ ELIEZER CALLENDER.

☞ Any Carpenter, or others, that would undertake to get the said Schooner off, shall receive from the Subscriber 120l. as soon as she is afloat.

Lower District of JAMES *River*.

PORT HAMPTON.

LET all Masters and Owners of Vessels, and others whom it may concern, know, that the Naval Office of this Port is open, and the Officer expects all the inward bound to enter according to the Laws of the Commonwealth of *Virginia*, where they may have a Permit granted to proceed and dispose of their Cargoes in any Districts, Ports, or Places in the said Commonwealth; and that the outward bound, when they come to clear out, will take Care that they have proper Certificates for their Cargo, with a Ballast Master's Certificate, signed and sealed according to Law. Pork, Beef, Flour, Tar, Turpentine, Pitch, and Ballast, &c. Certificates. The Master, Mate, and Boatswain, must be at the Office to clear.

JACOB WRAY, Naval Officer.

FOR SALE, a Tract of LAND lying in *James City* County, on *Scimino* Creek, about 7 or 8 Miles from *Williamsburg*, containing about 500 Acres, with a valuable firm Marsh thereto adjoining. There is on said Land an exceeding good Dwelling-House, with two Brick Chimnies, two Rooms and Closets, and a Passage below Stairs, and the same above, with Fire Places in each Room, other necessary Houses, good Apple and Peach Orchards, and is very convenient to Fish and Oysters. For Terms apply to the Subscriber, in *King William*. (tf) JOHN WATKINS.